

**Grace United Church,  
Barrie Ontario  
Job Description**

**Position: Music Director (Part-time – an average of 10 hours/week)**

**Overview of Congregation**

Grace United Church is a congregation of approximately 225 households. With a strong belief in the importance of social justice and the provision of meaningful worship opportunities, it is a congregation that is enthusiastic about and appreciative of music ministry. Grace United Church is an inclusive and an affirming place of worship.

At this point, during COVID, Grace United Church conducts its services in a hybrid format, that is, both in-person and live-streaming. Recorded services are posted on the church's website every Sunday afternoon.

All persons who enter our building must wear a mask and be fully vaccinated against COVID.

**Overview of Position**

The Music Director leads, develops, and enriches the congregation's worship experience by providing appropriate musical and choral support at regular Sunday services as well as other special services and events. Given the times, the Music Director needs to be comfortable with digital approaches to worship and the production of music.

**Accountability**

The Music Director will be hired by the Ministry & Personnel Committee and accountable to the Worship Committee.

**Specific areas of Focus**

The Music Director will:

1. Nurture the spiritual life of the congregation through music.
2. In collaboration with the minister, assist with the selection of music and hymns for Sunday and other services.
3. Provide music leadership during services: support the congregation and choir in the singing of hymns and anthems.
4. Lead rehearsal of the musicians/choir/youth in preparation for weekly worship services.
5. Encourage youth to participate in worship, instrumentally and/or vocally. While we do not yet have youth or children's choirs, this will be a congregational priority.
6. Plan and prepare special music for events through the year in collaboration with the minister.
7. Encourage the inclusion of various genres of worship music including traditional, contemporary, choral, instrumental and inter-generational.
8. Recruit and train choristers who have a broad range of musical abilities and learning styles.

9. Search out new music for the choir and other groups as required; oversee music collection and manage and record copyright compliance.
10. Support Grace's ability to offer virtual choir music to be used in worship
11. Manage the annual music budget.

## **Skills and Qualifications**

### **Musicianship**

- A Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music or equivalent experience is essential.
- Well experienced in leading, developing and conducting choirs
- Knowledge of choral repertoire and an openness to learn new music
- Skill in choral teaching, conducting and voice development for a choir where not everyone reads music
- Ability to play the piano well both as an accompanist for soloists, the choir and congregation as well as play solo music. A plus would be a level of comfort in playing our electronic organ.
- An appreciation of how music integrates and enhances Christian worship in a United Church of Canada setting
- Experience with worship planning
- Have or develop the ability to make vocal and piano rehearsal recordings to be used for learning vocal parts and/or virtual choir production

### **Leadership and Communication**

- Excellent communication skills with the ability to use tact, diplomacy and sensitivity
- Acts as an integral part of the Worship Team along with the minister, instrumentalist(s) and others. Meets regularly with the minister to plan worship. Meets monthly as a member of the Worship Team to determine the musical direction of worship services.
- As well as being part of a congregational leadership team, the Music Director must foster the team spirit among choir members as well as within the congregation and with any of the congregational committees with whom they may interact.
- Responds in a timely manner when communicating with chorists/musicians/team members virtually by email/phone or in-person as needed.

Pay commensurate with experience.

Send electronic submissions only to: [Pauline@chappelfarms.ca](mailto:Pauline@chappelfarms.ca)